



I think that so often we here at DFCM get done with a project and move on without seeing the benefit that the project was to the people that will use it. I wanted to take this opportunity and say thank you to all of you in DFCM for making this state a better place to live and work and raise a family. Thank you for a job well done.

# Happy 4th and 24th of July

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(Digital Information continued from Page 1)

Arrange these ones and zeros, by the billion one way, and it's a picture of Junior with Rover, another way and it's a copy of your contract with a vendor in Word.

Eight of these bits make up one byte.

One byte defines a character, let's say the letter W.

1,024 bytes is a kilobyte (KB)

1,000 KB is a megabyte (MB)

1,000 MB is a gigabyte (GB)

4.6 GB makes up the movie you watched on DVD over the weekend.

Take a byte of data, and you have what runs every computer system in our world. From nothing . . . . zero, comes everything that most people hate.

Some try to tell you – Computers make our jobs easier. Well . . . . if we only had to do what people used to do, before computers, yes. Now we do far more than anybody could ever dream of before, we just do it with computers. Our jobs are not easier, we handle far more information than our parents and we do it faster and hopefully with far less errors.

Digital information is handled solely by computers and computers are change— everyone would like them more if the industry didn't "improve" everything every year. If we could just stick to a software package, get good at it, make it our standard and spend our time getting our jobs done instead of trying to figure out the latest "upgrades." The very nature of computers is change, they create it, they promote it and they are it. To look at the history, the very short, less than a single lifetime, the history of computers is a testimony to change.

1941 - Conrad Zuse completed, what is considered by many to be, the first program controlled electromechanical computer.

1946 - The University of Pennsylvania announces ENIAC (Electronic Numerical Integrator And Computer) the world's first large scale computer.

1958 - Bell telephone develops the first modem to transmit binary data over phone lines.

1962 - The first computer video game is played, Spacewar.

1964 - SABRE is deployed by IBM to handle airline reservations.

1970 – Floppy disks are invented.

1971 - The Intel 4004 "computer on a chip" is created.

1975 – The first laser printer is available.

1981 – IBM PC defines the beginning of desktop computers.

1983 – TCP/IP makes global "internet" a reality.

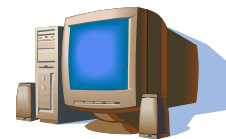
1989 – The World Wide Web project is proposed in Europe.

1993 – Digital Equipment Corporation creates the world's first commercial website.

Now – if you search the web for information, in a few seconds you will have access to 20,000 items on your subject, most of which has nothing to do with what you want.

All of it is digital information. We created computers to process this information faster and better, a slave to handle our simple bits of data, to do our work. These computers, our slaves to do our bidding, you have to wonder at what point does the master become the slave.

Thanks to **S'EAN CRAWFORD** for submitting this article.



## USING FIRE EXTINGUISHERS SAFELY AND EFFECTIVELY

Here at DFCM, we're fortunate enough to receive meaningful training, many times in areas that are useful not only at work, but at home too. Several years ago, arrangements were made to have hands-on training in the method to safely use fire extinguishers. To me, that was quite a learning experience – it was a lot harder than I thought it would be! Some of us had a refresher when we took the CERT training, but there are still some DFCM

staff members that have not been able to take part in that yet. I feel fortunate that I haven't needed to use one yet since that training, but when I saw this article about fire safety, I thought it might be a good reminder. I know it helped me!

According to the article "Steps to Safely Use a Fire Extinguisher" by Laura Coyne in the Spring issue of Family Safety and Health, the first priority for people in a fire is to get out safely. Because fire spreads so rapidly, it is often unwise to try to fight the

fire. However, Ms. Coyne points out that there are times when you can use a fire extinguisher effectively. She recommends the following tips to help you decide if you should or should not attempt to fight the fire:

Be sure everyone is out of the home and the fire department has been called.

Only use an extinguisher for small, contained fires, such as one in a kitchen wastebasket.

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Don't try to fight a growing, spreading fire. If the fire doesn't die down, give it up, get out, and wait for the fire department. Dan Neenan, a certified fire-fighter in Epworth, Iowa states that, "You're just putting yourself at risk" when you try to fight a large fire with a one-pound extinguisher.

Don't allow kids to use an extinguisher – it's dangerous and they may not have the strength or ability to handle it.

Install fire extinguishers close to an exit. As you are using the extinguisher, keep your back to a clear exit so you can make an easy escape. If the fire spreads or the room fills with smoke, leave immediately.

Recharge the extinguisher after you use it.

Ask the fire department to come to your home afterward, even though you think you've extinguished the fire. Julie Reynolds, Assistant Vice President for the National Fire Protection Association in Quincy, Massachusetts, points out that, "Extinguished fires can re-flare or may still be smoldering in hidden areas (such as behind walls) that you can't see. It's important for the fire department to arrive and check thoroughly for any signs of continued burning before anyone re-enters the home."

Teach kids fire safety. "Remember EDITH" (Exit Drills In The Home), says Neenan. It's wise to practice your escape plan with your family at least twice a year. He uses a Life Safety Trailer, which replicates a home, and he teaches kids eight and younger about fire safety,

fire hazards, and safe escape plans.

The type of extinguisher is important too. Ms. Coyne recommends the following guidelines:

Choose one that carries the label of an independent testing laboratory.

Select a multi-purpose extinguisher labeled "ABC" that you can use on all types of home fires.

Select one that you can handle – it should be large enough to put out a small fire but not so heavy it is difficult to handle.

Read the instructions that come with the extinguisher and become familiar with its parts and operation before a fire breaks out. Many times you can get training from your local fire department or fire equipment distributor.

Don't use the wrong type of extinguisher, like a water-based extinguisher on a charged electrical appliance. It could be ineffective and you risk getting an electrical shock.

Although hands-on training is the best, the US Department of Energy Hanford website has prepared some photos and instructions on the "PASS" method of using an extinguisher, which I thought were quite good:



**Pull** the pin at the top of the extinguisher that keeps the handle from being accidentally pressed.



**Aim** the nozzle toward the base of the fire.



Stand approximately 8 feet away from the fire and **squeeze** the handle to discharge the extinguisher. If you release the handle, the discharge will stop.



**Sweep** the nozzle back and forth at the base of the fire. After the fire appears to be out, watch it carefully since it may re-ignite!



**Congratulations** -- you did it!!!

Hopefully, none of us will have to put these tips to use. I hope we can all have a happy and safe Fourth and Twenty-Fourth of July!

Article submitted by  
**PRISCILLA ANDERSON.**  
Thanks Priscilla!



***Congratulations to Rod Sweet for guessing the spotlight from last month's newsletter. The Guess Who spotlight from June was Wayne Smith.***

### "Guess Who"

**Hobbies:** Running, Hiking, Fishing, Camping, Aerobics, Weight Lifting, Four-Wheeling, Water-Skiing, Snow Skiing, Racquetball. . . Basically anything outdoors

**Hero:** I have many heroes in my life. . .

**Favorite Color:** Forest Green and Navy Blue

**Favorite Food:** Corn Flake Chicken & Chicken Roll-ups

**Favorite Song:** "Everything I Do-I Do It For You"

**Favorite Movie:** Anastasia

**Favorite Team:** Utah Jazz & BYU Cougars

**Favorite Sport:** Racquetball and Basketball

**Least Favorite Food:** Seafood

**Favorite TV Show:** Seinfeld

**Favorite Actor/Actress:** Meg Ryan

**Favorite Holiday:** Christmas

**Notable Achievement:** Receiving my Bachelors Degree

### **FOR YOUR INFORMATION: EMPLOYEE UPDATES**

pounds 10 ounces. Both Mom and baby are doing great. Congratulations!

### **CONGRATULATIONS:**

DFCM would like to congratulate **Scott Whitney** for his promotion to Facilities Coordinator. Scott is replacing Jake at the Redwood Road complex. Good luck in your new position.

**Debbie and Rick Ebert** have a new addition to their family. Rick Ian Ebert was born on June 11, 2003 and weighed 7

### **FYI:**

You may notice that a lower amount of Federal taxes have been deducted from your pay checks, this is due to the "Jobs and Growth Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2003." Your net income will increase because of the lower tax deduction.



*Contributions from staff are always welcome!*

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